

Promoting Excellence for All

A Report from the State Superintendent's Task Force on Wisconsin's Achievement Gap



Agenda 2017 is State Superintendent Tony Evers' vision of every Wisconsin student graduating reading for further education and the workplace. This vision is built on five target goals:

- Further increase graduation rates from 85.7% to 92%.
- Increase career and college readiness from 49% to 67%.
- Close graduate and career and college readiness gaps by 50%.
- Increase the percentage of students scoring proficient in third-grade reading and eighth grade mathematics.
- Adopt the Fair Funding for Our Future plan to make school finance more equitable and transparent.

Student data shows many Wisconsin students are moving forward to meet these goals. Wisconsin is a national leader in graduation rates, ACT scores, and Advanced Placement results. However, Wisconsin's data shows not all of Wisconsin students are succeeding:

- 1 in 4 Hispanic students drop out of high school.
- 1 in 4 American Indian students drop out of high school.
- 1 in 3 African American students drop out of high school.

- On the 2013 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), Wisconsin had the largest gap between African American students and White students in both fourth grade reading and eighth grade mathematics.

State Superintendent Evers believes Wisconsin must be proactive in addressing the achievement gap in our schools. He formed the Promoting Excellence for All: State Superintendent's Task Force on Wisconsin's Achievement Gap (Task Force) as an important first step. Educators from Wisconsin schools came together and shared what is making a difference in their classrooms and schools. The Task Force developed a report highlighting recommended strategies organized around four school improvement focus areas:

- Effective instruction,
- Student-Teacher relationships,
- Family and community engagement, and
- School and instructional leadership.

These strategies have been tried and tested in Wisconsin schools and were developed by Wisconsin educators for Wisconsin educators. Each strategy has been defined and provides a description of how it was applied in a Wisconsin school or classroom.

You can learn more about the *Promoting Excellence for All* website and report at: <http://statesupt.dpi.wi.gov/excforall>.



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